

Second Sunday of Advent — December 6, 2009

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR:



From the “Proslogion” (Discourse on the Existence of God) by St. Anselm:

“Insignificant man, escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labors. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him.

Enter into your mind’s inner chamber. Shut out everything but God and whatever helps you to seek him; and when you have shut the door, look for him. Speak now to God and say with your whole heart: I seek your face; your face, Lord, I desire.

Teach me to seek you, for I cannot seek you unless you teach me, nor can I find you unless you show yourself to me. Let me seek you in desiring you and desire you in seeking you, find you in loving you and love you in finding you.”

Peace & Prayers: Fr. Kevin

Immaculate Heart of Mary Weekly Planner: December 7—13, 2009

Date	Mass Times and Intentions	Mass Readings	Parish Events
Monday 7	6:45 a.m. + Carl and Rita Bieker 7:00 p.m. + Norman F. Schulte (Vigil Mass)	Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26	JWJ Classes: 6:30 p
Tuesday 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	6:45 a.m. + Bridget Werth 8:00 a.m. + Irene Pfeifer 6:30 p.m. L/D Ralph and Zetta Gnad (Spanish Mass)	Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38	Parish Office Closed RCIA: 7 p in the Parish Office National Night of Prayer for Life: 9:00 p.m.—1:00 a.m.
Wednesday 9	6:45 a.m. + Joe Unrein 6:30 p.m. + Frances Schmeidler	Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	Faith Formation: 6:30-8:00 p CYO: ROC session in the Activity Center.
Thursday 10	8:00 a.m. + Georgine Schulte	Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15	Weekly Music Practice: 6:30 p Special Advent Practice: 7:15 p Please use south door in church.
Friday 11	6:45 a.m. + Francis Jerome Staab	Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	
Saturday 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe	5:00 p.m. L/D John and Irene VonFeldt Family	Zec 2:14-17 Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38	Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration: All Day in the Activity Center
Sunday 13 Third Sunday of Advent	8:00 a.m. L/D Wilfred and Arthur Klaus Family 10:00 a.m. People of the Parish 12:00 p.m. + Jesus Pina	Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18	Wee Words: During the 8 and 10 a masses. Communal Penance Service and First Reconciliation: 3:00 p.m. in the church

Rosary Group Intention of the Week:

That the Senate will pass the health care bill which upholds the policy against abortion funding and protects conscience rights.

Stewardship in Our Parish: Sharing Your Time, Talent, and Treasure

<i>Liturgical Ministers</i>	December 12 Saturday 5:00 p.m.	December 13 Sunday 8:00 a.m.	December 13 Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Music Ministers	Cantor: Elizabeth Schmeidler Accompanist: Peggy Whittington	Cantor: Elise Peterson Accompanist: Linda Lang	Cantors: Katie Dinkel, Shaelyn Klaus, and Aaron Jacobs Accompanist: Billie Jacobs
Altar Servers	Rebecca Befort Emily Miller Timothy Miller	Carmen Brull Kate Brull Luke Brull	Caleb Hecker Jacob Hecker Kelton Werth
Readers	Lester Robben Jim Thyfault	Larry Dreiling Tim Ruder	Rex O'Brien Jennifer Pfannenstiel
Gift Bearers	Jerry Ruder	Carol Klaus	Arthur and Marilyn Leiker
EMs	Barbara Carlin Sandra Herrman Pat Legleiter John Patriarca Bradley Stramel Jane Younger (Deacon Tom)	Ken Braun Ken Debes Anjanette Hamel Lil Kingsley Pat Murphy Doug Nehls Darlene Schippers	Spencer Casey Gwen Hitchcock Jim Jacobs Virginia Jacobs Katrina Staab Linda Stefan (Deacon Tom)

Stewardship of Treasure

Weekly Budget for 2009-2010: \$28,223.89

Adult Envelopes	21,558.00
Loose Plate	1999.52
Children's Envelopes	23.00
Total Giving	23,580.52

Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Budgeted offertory as of Oct. 31, 2009	\$ 479,805.97
Actual tithing total as of Oct. 31, 2009	\$ 435,103.10
Fiscal Year Collections on Oct. 31- behind	\$ (44,702.87)

Building Fund Donations: 2nd Collection	\$ 685.51
Amount Borrowed for New Church to date:	\$ 825,000.00

Money Counters for the Upcoming Weeks

December 13th

Donald & Geraldine Larson and Richard Normandin

December 20th

Arlyn Schupman and Eugenia Uhrich

Bulletin Helpers for December 10th

Jan Kirmer and Brenda Klaus

Please notify the parish office if you are planning on moving or need to change your registration information. This will help us save money on postage for returned church mail-outs and envelopes.

Sunday Readings

First Reading: The prophet Baruch summons Jerusalem to adorn itself in celebratory splendor, for God has assembled the whole community of Israel, restoring its integrity. God's glory will be made manifest in his people, for God himself will accompany his people as light, mercy, and integrity.

Second Reading: Paul expresses his faith that God's good work begun among the Philippians will be brought to successful completion. To that end, he prays that growth in love will enable them to know what is true and good and therefore come to glorify God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Luke recalls for us the particular historical moment in which the word of God impelled John to come forth from the desert to preach a baptism of repentance. God calls each of us to repentance and to ministry within the concrete, particular events of life, not in an abstract way that is unrelated to human history. What events has God been using to call us forth?

Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation

- ◆ **December 6th—Confirmation Prep II (8th gr.) 2nd Presentation to the Parish—Signing of the Book—10:00 a.m. Mass—Students meet in the Little Theater with Sponsor / Parent at 9:30 a.m.**
- ◆ **December 9th—Reconciliation 6A & 6B**
- ◆ **December 13th—Sunday, 1st Reconciliation at 3:00 p.m.**
- ◆ **December 16th— 7:10 p.m. in church Advent/ Christmas Prayer Service—Living Nativity by 3rd grade. All are invited to join the children in Prayer. 6:00 p.m.—3rd gr. Meet in the Gathering Space of the Church**



Question of the Week

Prepare Ye The Way

Advent is a time of expectation, of waiting, of preparing. At Mass we sing “Come, O Come Emmanuel” and “People Look East” and listen to Scriptures encouraging us to prepare. At home, we set out our nativity scene, hang the lights, and trim the tree. We spend hours shopping and wrapping gifts, planning Christmas dinner and baking cookies. We clean our houses to prepare for guests and pull out the good linens and dishes.

We do all sorts of things to prepare for Christmas, but are we preparing for the feast of Christ’s coming, or the secular version of the holiday? Amidst all the flurry of activity are we taking time to prepare our hearts and minds for Christ? Are we heeding John’s call to “Prepare the way of the Lord”? We are waiting to celebrate God coming to us as a man, but we are also preparing for Him to come again in glory? We sing “Come Divine Messiah,” but are we really prepared for His return? This season of Advent reminds us to make room in our lives for Christ, to prepare Him a way in our hearts. We need to remember the true meaning of Christmas, and of Advent.

Question of the week for adults and children:

What do I need to change in my life to prepare for the Lord to come ?

IHM CYO

Dec. 9th-7:30 p.m.-ROC session in the A.C. @ IHM!

Dec. 13th-17th-9:30 p.m.-Liturgy of the Hours Night Prayer! Please join the CYO in praying Night Prayer every night this week as we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus!

Dec. 16th-6:30 p.m.-ROC session in the A.C. @ IHM! The 7th & 8th grade RE students will join us for an Advent Liturgy!

Dec. 20th-7:00 p.m.-Drive by Prayer Night! Meet in the Activity Center before going out on drive by prayers!

Dec. 23rd-7:30 p.m.-Activity Night in the A.C. @ IHM!

IHM JR. CYO

Dec. 19th-6:30-9:30 p.m.-Drive by prayers and service activity! Following the prayers, we will return to the Little Theatre for hot chocolate and to make Christmas cards for the homebound of our parish.

“Answering the Call”

Christ reigned in the lives of all who went on this year’s trip to Kansas City for the National Catholic Youth Conference as the head of the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry, Bob McCarty, encouraged us all to “Show up, Step up, and Step out”. Being with over 20,000 other Catholic youth at NCYC was a definite eye opener to all in attendance. “It was overwhelming to see that many youth just praising God and loving Him” adult sponsor Paulla Harris commented. Whether it was a certain speaker or session, each person had something that truly spoke to them and strengthened their faith. Jason and Crystalina Evert gave a wonderful chastity speech that both youth and adults loved. Sophomore Cassidy Stecklein said “they related it to our lives, and didn’t just sound like old people.” Shaun Wasinger, senior, agreed, saying “they were funny, open, and made a good point. It wasn’t the normal sex talk.” Parents Lee Fisher and Paulla Harris both agreed that Jason and Crystalina spoke on the youth’s level and hopefully made kids feel it is important to respect themselves. Another speaker that many loved was Fr. Tony Ricardo. First time attendee Zach Binder said, “Fr. Tony related well, was interesting, made us laugh, but taught a good lesson.” Austin Haselhorst’s favorite session was also Fr. Tony. Austin commented, “He put it into our language and told it how it was.” Though everyone enjoyed the funny and lighthearted speakers, all would agree with Colby Schippers. His most memorable moment was the ending Mass because of the fact he had never been with so many Catholic people in Mass before. No matter the memories they will keep, all would agree with Lee Fisher in saying, “Overall, NCYC, with the music and various speakers, was the total package kids needed to have their faith rejuvenated.” This is just a few of the comments and thoughts on the great experience we all enjoyed. Be sure to seek out youth and adult sponsors that attended the conference to learn more about how “Christ Reigns” in them.

Michelle Harris, PR

Parish and Community Announcements

Midnight Mass Seasonal Choir Practice Schedule:

Thursday, December 10th (L.T.)

Thursday, December 17th

Tuesday, December 22nd



- All at 7:30 p.m. in church unless otherwise noted (use south door)
- Each practice will last from 1- 1&1/2 hours
- Open to all ages and anyone interested
- Vocalists and Instrumentalists Needed!

Anointing of the Sick

The communal **Rite of the Anointing of the Sick** will be celebrated the weekend of **December 19/20** immediately following all masses. All are invited.



The Perpetual Adoration Chapel has the following holy hours to be filled: **Wednesdays at 1:00 a.m. & 3:00 a.m.** If you can fill one of these hours, call Lil at 625-7474 or Bob Feauto at 628-1429.

If you would like to donate to the **Immaculate Heart of Mary's poinsettia fund**, place your contribution in a regular envelope marked for this purpose and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office. If you want to make this donation in memory of someone, kindly do so by **Wednesday, December 16th**. Thank you for helping to beautify our worship space this Christmas season.



"I call heaven and earth today to witness against you: that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live." Deut 30:19.

You are invited to join us for the Rosary each morning at 7:15 a.m. (after 6:45 Mass) at Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The Retirement Fund for the Religious depends on its annual appeal to support our aging religious women and men. The collection takes place on the weekend of December 12-13. Please give generously to next week's second collection.

Please call Sr. Mary at the Parish office if you or a loved one are homebound or hospitalized and wish to receive the Eucharist. Under restrictive HIPPA laws, this information is not available to us.

Missing Wheelchair

Whoever used the wheelchair please return it or let the parish office know that you borrowed it. Thank you for your assistance.



20th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life

Tuesday, December 8/9, 2009
9:00 P.M. Tuesday to 1:00 A.M. Wednesday
At Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Please, come pray with us for 1 hour or all 4 hours. Your prayers will be appreciated!

We Welcome Our New Parish Members!

Nick Brungardt
Casey and Tiffanie Dinkel
Cynthia Foster
Thomas and Kathalie Hoffman

November Baptisms

Aydan Matthew Church
Son of Bryan and Amy Church
Jose Patrocinio Fernandez
Son of Jose Fernandez and Irasema Loya
Kenzie Jo Liederbach
Daughter of Randy and April Liederbach
Rowan Jeanine Ruder
Daughter of Ashley Ruder
Brynlee Nicole Rupp
Daughter of Travis and Kristin Rupp
Caleb Joseph Staley
Son of Tony and Diana Staley
Dalton Ryan Werth
Son of Ryan and Shelly Werth

Jr. CYO Placemats

Be sure to view the placemats in the gathering space and north hallways designed by members of the Jr. CYO with assistance from Northwestern Printers! A table set with these placemats would tell all guests "Welcome to our home". They are also a great teaching tool for children to learn their prayers. Contact the youth office or a member of the Jr. CYO to order yours in time for Christmas! All proceeds benefit the new church!

Daughters of Isabella will meet Tuesday, December 8 for their monthly meeting at 7:00 at the IHM Activity Center. Member are asked to bring a signed, stamped Christmas card to be sent to our shut-in members.

If you or your loved ones need prayers, call Pat at 628-1138 or Lil at 625-7474.

Parish and Community Announcements

Mary Elizabeth Home Candlelight Vigil

When: December 7, 2009 **Time:** 7:00 p.m.

Where: 204 W. 7th St., Hays

You are invited to come let your light shine at the Mary Elizabeth Maternity Home! We will gather for a candlelight vigil to pray for the young ladies who have been at the home, those currently residing there, and those to come in the future. Please dress warmly and be ready for hot chocolate and sweets. Staff will be available afterwards to give tours of the house. For more information, call 785-625-6800.

Charitable Breakfast

Alpha Kappa Psi, the professional business fraternity at FHSU, is hosting a charitable breakfast in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Activity Center on Sunday, December 13th from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thirty percent of the proceeds raised will benefit the Mary Elizabeth Maternity Home.

Cup a Joe

- **Tuesday, December 8 – Cup a Joe will not** be open from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. on this day due to the Holy Day. **It will be open for one hour from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the evening for the Praying in Color class.**



- **Looking for creative and unusual Stocking Stuffers for Christmas? Cup a Joe** is offering gift certificates. They are in \$1.00 increments. They will be sold as a booklet of 5 for \$5.00.

Seniors Sharing Christmas Party and Potluck Friday December 11th

This year's Seniors Christmas event will be a "sing-a-long" and potluck on Friday, December 11th at 2:30 P.M. in the St. Nicholas Parish Hall. Join us for caroling, fellowship, festivities, food and fun! Please try to bring some kind of covered dish (preferably) or a dessert of your choice.

Help Moms and Babies

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Christmas Tree located in the IHM gathering space with ornaments asking for needed items that will benefit the Mary Elizabeth Maternity Home and Birthright. You are invited to choose an ornament and as you are conducting your Christmas shopping, you can help a mother and/or her baby by buying the item. Gifts do not need to be wrapped. However, please put the ornament on the item so that it can be distributed to the proper agency. This is a wonderful way to honor the Baby Jesus and His mother, Mary, during this month preparing for Christmas. May the peace of the Baby Jesus be within the depths of all hearts.

-All American Breakfast- Hays Hospice

Sunday, December 6, 2009 from 7:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

All you can eat! Menu includes: pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, hash browns, biscuits, gravy, toast, coffee and juice. Tickets: Adults-\$6.25, At the Door-\$6.50, Children Under 12-\$3.00, Under 5-Free
Santa Claus is Coming! Treats for kids.

Catholic School News

HOLY FAMILY

Dec. 7th-7:00 p.m.-Advisory Council mtg. in School Library.

Dec. 8th-No School! Feast of Immaculate Conception!



Dec. 9th-2:00 p.m.-5th gr. DARE graduation in A.C. @ Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Dec. 9th-3:45-5:30 p.m.-Parker Uniform sale in A.C. @ Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Dec. 10th-December Birthday Mass and Dinner.

Dec. 10th-1:00 p.m.-Reconciliation for grades 2-6 @ Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Dec. 10th-6:30 p.m.-Joyful Noise Singers perform at The First National Bank of Hays.

Dec. 21st-Jan. 4th-Christmas Vacation!

Jan. 5th-School resumes!

While shopping for Christmas gifts, consider supporting Holy Family Elementary by purchasing gift cards through the HFE Bucks Program! New to the program is a VISA prepaid card. Wonderful for shopping and gift giving. Stop by the school office to get your HFE Bucks!

TMP-MARIAN

Dec. 17th-TMP-Marian Christmas Concert

Dec. 21st-Jan. 5th-Christmas Break

Jan. 6th-School resumes

Catholic Schools Week January 24th-30th, 2010

Clear your calendars now for the many activities during Catholic Schools Week Watch upcoming bulletins or go to the TMP-Marian website to see the schedule of events and activities.



Please Remember your Parish for Year-End Giving
 Year-end is nearing. Our parish is always in need of financial resources for programs, ministries, repairs and renovations. Remember, also, that you can donate a paid-up whole life insurance policy and receive a tax deduction. For guidance with planned-giving questions, contact your tax adviser or contact Mark Roberti at 625-7356 before making any significant non-cash donations.

Respect Life Mass: January 8th
 The next Respect Life Mass for the Heartland Parishes will be on Friday, January 8th at 5:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish. Please join us in supplication to Jesus through the Mother of Life as we pray for life, our nation, and that the world will respect life from conception to natural death. Mass is preceded by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 4:55, and the Rosary at 5:00

2009 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Our Lady Help of Christians - Antonino
 St. Anthony - Schoenchen
 St. Catherine - Catharine

St. Joseph - Hays
 Immaculate Heart of Mary - Hays
 St. Nicholas of Myra - Hays

St. Francis of Assisi - Munjor
 Comeau Catholic Campus Center

December 6, 2009 - Second Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

December 7, 2009 - Monday - Immaculate Conception

(Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil Masses)

IHM - 7:00 p.m.

Munjor - 5:30 p.m.

Schoenchen - 7:00 p.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 7:00 p.m.

December 8, 2009 - Tuesday - Immaculate Conception

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Catherine - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - 6:45 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

IHM National Night of Prayer - 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

St. Joseph - 6:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 5:30 p.m. (No Vigil Mass)

St. Nicholas of Myra - 7:00 a.m.

December 12, 2009 - Saturday - Our Lady of Guadalupe

IHM - Mananitas - 5:00 a.m. Mass immediately following

December 13, 2009 - Third Sunday of Advent

IHM - Communal Penance Service - 3:00 p.m.

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

December 14, 2009 - Monday

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

December 15, 2009 - Tuesday

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

December 16, 2009 - Wednesday

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - Faith Formation Advent Program - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

Munjor - Communal Penance Service - 7:00 p.m.

December 17, 2009 - Thursday

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

December 18 (Friday) - December 23 (Wednesday), 2009

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

December 20, 2009 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - Communal Penance - 3:00 p.m.

December 21, 2009 - Monday

St. Joseph - Communal Penance Service 7:00 p.m.

December 24, 2009 - (Thursday) Christmas Eve

Catherine - 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

Comeau Catholic Campus Center - 10:00 p.m.

IHM - Masses in the Church & Little Theater - 5:00 p.m.

IHM - 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass; 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

Munjor - 9:00 p.m.

Schoenchen - 5:30 p.m.

St. Joseph - 5:00 p.m. (Children's Mass),

11:30 p.m. Choir & Bell Choir, 12:00 a.m. Mass

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m. (Family Mass); 11:00 p.m.

December 25, 2009 - (Friday) Christmas Day

Antonino - 9:00 a.m.

Comeau Catholic Campus Center - **NO MASSES TODAY**

IHM - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Munjor - 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph - 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:00 a.m.

December 31, 2009 - (Thursday) Mary Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil Masses)

Antonino - 5:00 p.m.

IHM - 5:00 p.m. (English) & 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Munjor - 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph - 5:00 p.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m.

January 1, 2010 - (Friday) Mary, Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Catherine - 9:00 a.m.

IHM - 8:00 a.m.

St. Joseph - 9:00 a.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:00 a.m.